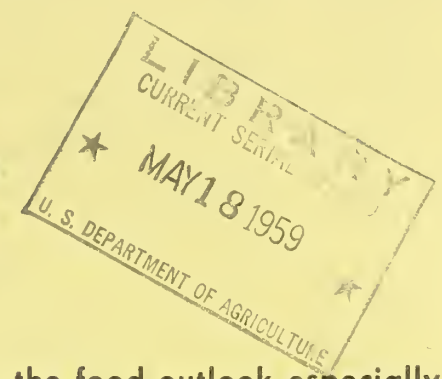
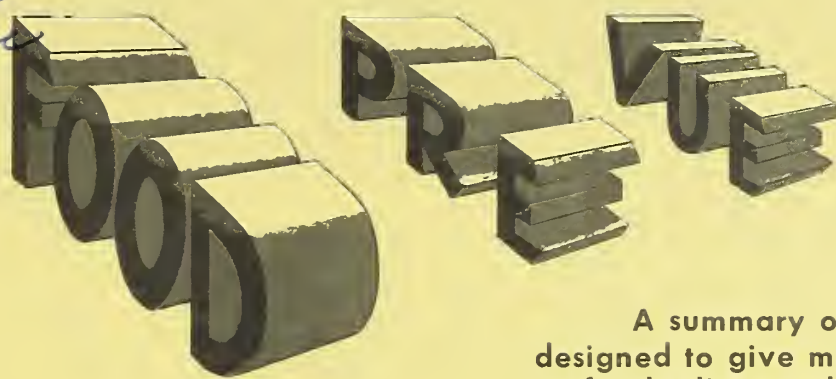


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Reserve



A summary of the food outlook especially designed to give maximum advance information to food editors to help them plan food features.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service	May 4, 1959 F P - 28
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MEAT.....Total supplies will probably show a seasonal dip but likely remain somewhat larger than last spring and summer. Pork will provide most increase. Consumption per person may run over 157 pounds--up 5 pounds from year earlier.

Beef.....Production in next several months likely will be about same as a year earlier. Near future promises heavier supplies higher quality beef, but less lower grade.

Pork.....Although production will be declining seasonally this spring and summer, it will remain considerably greater than last year.

Lamb.....Heavy first-quarter marketing old crop lambs lifted lamb and mutton production about a fifth above same period 1958, and greatly reduced number on hand for slaughter. Lamb and mutton output in next few months will dip from first-quarter and be near a year earlier.

POULTRY.....Increase in broiler-fryer production continues at rapid rate, assuring large supplies into early July.

Turkeys.....Increases in poult hatchings tapered off in recent weeks, compared with 1958. If trend continues, turkeys raised remainder this year may be about same as in that period year ago. And, due to smaller storage stocks, holiday supplies may fall below 1958.

Eggs.....Supplies expected remain above 1958 throughout this year. Consumption per person expected average about 353 eggs this year--4 eggs above last year, and first increase in 8 years.

DAIRY.....Milk production now increasing seasonally and will probably surpass year earlier levels in some months ahead. For entire year, output may show small gain over 1958 total. Milk output, per cow, likely will rise some, continuing long-term upward trend.

FRUITS:

Citrus.....Remaining supplies Florida oranges and grapefruit much greater than last spring, though about average. Prospects also point to heavier supplies fresh oranges this summer and early fall than in 1958. California Valencia crop expected be half again larger than year earlier but moderately below average. California lemon supplies slightly below year ago.

Apples.....Cold storage stocks fresh apples April 1 considerably greater than year earlier. Most increase in Eastern States and includes higher proportion in controlled atmosphere storage which maintains quality for longer period.

Pears.....Stocks--mainly in western States--somewhat below last spring.

Strawberries..Acreage in mid-spring and late spring States somewhat below last year. California will be shipping heavily during next couple months, from crop expected be nearly as large as last year.

Canned.....Packers' stocks of nine canned deciduous fruits on April 1 were about 13% below year earlier. By start of 1959 packing season, stocks will total somewhat below year ago. Early spring stocks of both canned single-strength orange juice and single-strength grapefruit juice held by Florida packers ran considerably smaller than year earlier. Moderately more frozen orange juice expected in late spring and summer than last year. Output has already passed 1958 levels and is expected exceed 1957-58 season by about 20%. Pack of frozen concentrate for lemonade probably will be about as large this spring and summer as year earlier. April 1 holdings of frozen deciduous fruits and berries run about same as last year.

Dried.....Supplies expected continue below normal this spring and summer, due to lighter packs last year, particularly of prunes and raisins.

VEGETABLES:

Fresh.....Spring supplies, not including melons, expected run close to last spring's tonnage. Increases indicated for full spring crops of carrots, celery and spinach, but these will be offset by likely decreases in early season crop onions, tomatoes, sweet corn, cucumbers and snap beans, also season's output of green peppers and eggplant. Average yields of recent years on indicated acreages for melons would result in moderately more cantaloups this spring than last, but substantially fewer watermelons than large 1958 crop.

Processed.....Canned vegetable supplies for remainder of marketing period--which, for most items, ends around mid-year--are heavier than in 1958. Considerably more carrots, whole tomatoes, tomato juice and most other tomato products are available than in latter part 1957-58 season, and slightly to moderately more snap beans, green peas, and sauerkraut. But reduced holdings expected for canned sweet corn, lima beans, pumpkin and squash. Frozen vegetable stocks--excluding potatoes--run slightly below year earlier. Facing prospect heavier canned vegetable carry-over end of marketing year processors plan smaller total packs than last year on most items.

Potatoes.....Overall supplies in late spring probably will be smaller than last year, owing to the smaller spring acreage.

The Plentiful Foods Program

The Agricultural Marketing Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, through its Plentiful Foods Program, is supporting these forthcoming industry food campaigns:

EGGS May 1 - 31
FRESH SWEET CORN May 1 - 31
JUNE DAIRY MONTH June 1 - 30